



By Craig Sim Webb

As far back as recorded history and probably further, dreams have been employed for guidance and healing. The dream temples of ancient Greece are a classic example: the ill would visit a specialized healing temple and perform a sacred ritual before sleep. The Greek god Asclepius would often appear in a visionary dream, perform a symbolic operation, and the seeker would awaken healed or having received guidance. Closer to home, many native North American peoples such as the Ojibwa of the Great Lakes, have expanded their use of incubation beyond healing. Young adults would embark upon a dream or vision quest into the wilderness as a rite of passage into adulthood and would fast and pray until the anticipated dream was received. Blessed by the dream with guidance or revelations about latent personal talents, the youths would return to the community with the responsibility to apply and share their gifts for the benefit of the community.

The process of incubation or suggestion is the basis for many practical applications of dreams. Although perhaps a forgotten art in our culture, it is natural and neither esoteric nor difficult; and it often operates automatically as we fall asleep with a problem in mind. How often have you heard a friend with a pending decision, problem or question say, "Let me sleep on it"?

To consciously incubate a dream, simply hold your question or problem clearly in mind as you prepare for sleep. Then ask (rather than command) yourself to have and clearly remember a dream, which reveals the answer as either an insight, an actual experience, or both. In the morning, **record any dreams or thoughts that you have upon waking for later reflection.** The answer may be either obvious or not immediately apparent, but trust that the process is working and try to **put any insights you**

DREAM INCUBATION

for Daily Healing and Guidance

get into practice. This last step often involves drawing upon courage and self-discipline to face personal fears and/or overcome present personal limitations. It is however very important, as explained by the following analogy: if you ask someone for a gift and they grant your wish, they won't be overly impressed or nearly as generous next time if you lose, ignore or forget about it. So try to **maintain a grateful appreciation** for having received such guidance and it will likely promote further insight and future success. Eventually, you begin to trust

Call to Action

DREAM INCUBATION FOR DAILY HEALING AND GUIDANCE

1. Purchase a Dream Journal or notebook
2. Write your dreams down upon waking
3. Consider what you have written
4. Study DVD's and book's on dreams, and research possible interpretations

that you're generally always receiving dreams about what you most need at the time anyway.

Record any dreams or thoughts that you have upon waking for later reflection.

Testimonial

"I'm a triathlete. After an important, upsetting race where I biked and ran well below my capability, I decided to incubate a dream about it. After a week of focusing, I remembered this dream: 'I'm with my coach discussing how I was so tight and cramped during the race. He suggests regular sports massages for the racing season and says he knows a guy who could do it.' When I awoke and phoned him, he confirmed the dream and connected me with his massage therapist. A few weeks later I won my first major race, becoming the New England Long Course Champion. Two weeks after that, I qualified for the World Championships in Hawaii."
(R.C., Montreal, QC)

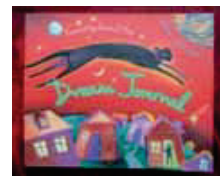
Craig Sim Webb, Executive Director of the non-profit DREAMS Foundation (www.dreams.ca), is a physicist and dream and consciousness researcher/author/inventor with pioneering dream and lucid dream research at California's Stanford University and Montreal's Sacre-Coeur Hospital. Craig is an invited expert for major motion pictures, fortune 500 corporations, and over a thousand.

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and answers that will help you unlock their mystery. Keeping a dream journal makes self-reflection an adventure.

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